19906749 1371.42 IT c.3 ALLINOIS DOCUM MAY 1 7 1989 It all adds up!

# YOU + A GOOD EDUCATION = A BRIGHT FUTURE!

With the right addition, you won't end up with a zero. But you must plan now--starting with your education. A good education will multiply your possibilities for the future.

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### The Equation that Equals Success:

- 1. Set your GOALS. +
- 2. PREPARE now for your future--Don't wait until you're a senior in high school. +
- 3. FINANCIAL AID can help you afford school. Don't rule out more education or training after high school just because you or your parents think you can't afford it. +
- COMMUNICATE with your parents, teachers and guidance counselor about your future goals. They can give you the right advice to help you reach your goals.

**EQUALS SUCCESS!** 



### **GOALS**

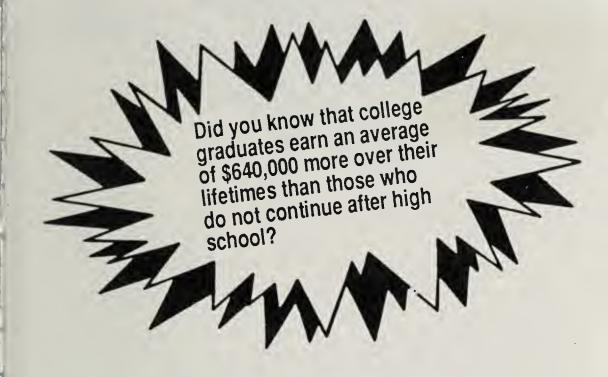
Get a head start. Starting today, begin to explore your career interests and your abilities, and start preparing for your future.

Throughout the next few years, think about what your interests are and what you are good at. What kind of job would you enjoy? Do you like to work with people, or ideas, or things? Do you prefer being in-doors or outside? Do you like sports or art? Math or science? Writing or computers?

There are lots of different books about careers. See if your school library has any about careers that interest you. Or maybe you could spend the day with an adult who has a job that interests you.

There are many different types of schools that could help you reach your goals. Find out about the different kinds of schools. For example, vocational, trade and technical schools can provide training during or after high school. The programs can last a few weeks to a few years. You would learn skills for a specific job area, such as those needed to be a mechanic or cosmetologist.

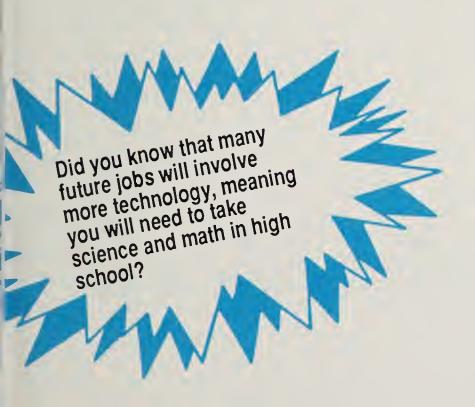
Community and junior colleges offer a variety of programs. Some offer training for vocational/technical areas and last from one semester to two years. Others prepare students to complete their education at a four year university or college. Cost, admission, available courses, and many other differences exist among different schools. Regardless of the kind of school you attend, choose it carefully.



### **PREPARE**

You'll get to decide which classes to take in high school. So take the classes that will prepare you for a good job, or for more education or training after high school. Most importantly, take classes that interest and challenge you. And keep your grades up. That way, you will have more opportunities after you graduate from high school.

Find out early what classes you'll need to graduate from high school, and which ones will prepare you to do what you want after high school. Ask what classes will prepare you for a good job. And find out what classes you'll need if you decide to continue your education after high school. Your teacher or counselor can help here.



## FINANCIAL AID...IT PAYS!!!

Pays what, you ask? Financial aid helps you afford to continue your education after high school. So, if you are worried that you won't be able to afford college or technical training after high school, find out more about financial aid. It helps you pay the bills.

There are three types of financial aid:

Scholarships and Grants - This is called "gift aid." You don't have to pay this back. You could receive a scholarship for special talents (such as in sports or music), good grades, and many, many other reasons. Grants are often given by a school to help you afford your education. They may also be given by other organizations depending on your area of interest and your major area of study.

Work Study - A part-time job that helps you pay for school. Schools can help you get a part-time job at or near the school. This is a special program funded by the government.

Loans - Money you have to pay back. Loans should be your last choice, but they can help you and your family pay for the education you choose.

Most financial aid does not require special talents or outstanding grades. You could receive financial aid just because you and your parents need it to pay for your education. To qualify, you must show financial need. Need is the difference between what it costs to attend a school and what you are expected to pay. Need is determined when you apply for financial aid. This type of financial aid is often offered through the school's financial aid office by the federal and state governments, and is not based on your academic achievements or grade point average.

### (Financial Aid, continued)

You could qualify for a scholarship, a grant, a loan, and work study, all at once. Often a financial aid package, which could include a grant, work-study funds and loans, is put together for you by the financial aid administrator at the school you choose to attend.

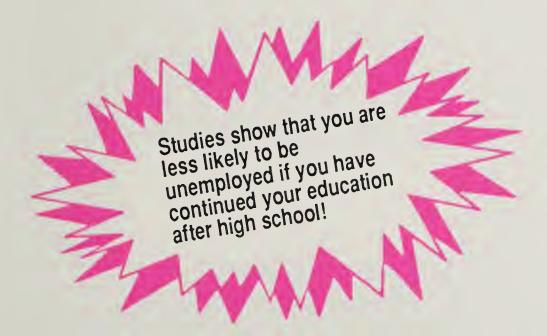
Talk to your guidance counselor. Ask what types of scholarships, grants and loans are available through the state and federal governments. Or talk to financial aid counselors at different schools about scholarships in your area of interest. Remember, financial aid helps you pay! Information is available in counseling or financial aid offices.

### COMMUNICATE

Talk to your parents about your goals. And your teachers and guidance counselors, too. Ask lots of questions. They can help you understand your interests and abilities and help you plan for your goals. They can tell you about different types of schools. Work with them to plan for high school graduation and for getting a good job or more education after high school. These people are part of your team as you plan for your future.

# Your future is up to you.

The choices you make now can help you achieve your goals. So keep your options open with a good education. And multiply your future possibilities!





## **More Questions?**

Do you have more questions about what classes to take or specific interest areas? Your local library might be able to help. Check out books about the career areas that interest you, and look for books about going to college or vocational school. There are even books about available scholarships. It might be worth planning ahead!

Talk to older brothers and sisters, friends or teachers about going to school after high school. Or any adult that you trust. Find out about their experiences with school.

Or call the Illinois State Scholarship Commission. We'll be glad to help you find the answers to your questions about the future. You can reach us at 312/948-8550\*, or write to us:

ISSC Attention: Client Support Junior High Information 106 Wilmot Rd. Deerfield, IL 60015

<sup>\*</sup>after November 1, 1989, the number changes to 708/948-8550.